

State of Colorado

Tornado Disaster in the Northern Front Range

Action Plan for Disaster Recovery

Substantial Amendment

INTRODUCTION

The State of Colorado published an Action Plan for Disaster Recovery (**Action Plan**) that describes the proposed use of U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding associated with the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 (Public Law 110-252), for the disaster relief of unmet needs resulting from the May 22, 2008 tornado in Weld County, Colorado. The 2008 disaster was included in areas designated by the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Assistance Act.

This Action Plan was approved by HUD for the distribution of \$589,561 in CDBG Disaster Recovery Funding toward meeting eligible unmet needs, disaster relief, long-term recovery and restoration of infrastructure in areas affected by the tornados. The approved plan stated that any substantial changes made to the plan will be posted as an amendment and published. Substantial changes are considered to be changes in the method of distribution and will allow for a comment period of no less than 7 days.

The affected communities have requested a change in the method of distribution. The second paragraph of method of distribution has been revised as follows:

Method of Distribution

The following activities were identified as being eligible for funding using Colorado's portion (\$589,561) of the CDBG Disaster Recovery Funding. Funds will be awarded based on approved and standard applications which will include a verifiable national objective, eligibility and need:

1. No more than 47.8%, or \$282,000 will be used to assist Weld County with enhancing its E911 warning system. This system will allow for enhanced communications for dispatch and mass notification of the citizens of Weld County. The May 2008 tornado in Windsor demonstrated how the current systems are impacted when they are disrupted during a disaster occurring throughout a large geographic area. With the necessary back up systems in place being sought by this grant and working in tandem with existing 911 communications infrastructure, the identification of challenges evolving in real time during the event can be managed by first responders.
2. A total of 42.8% of the funds, or \$252,185 will assist the Town of Windsor and Weld County with architectural barrier removal. Sidewalk curb cuts and ramps will be installed in areas still in need of this activity in order to make the town accessible to its citizens with mobility impairments. Immediately following the disaster, county and town funds were used in a variety of efforts, depleting their ability to make these planned improvements.
3. The remaining 9.4%, or \$55,376 will be used to assist the town's senior services program in

replacing equipment damaged by the tornado not fully covered by insurance.

All other portions of the originally submitted plan remain the same.

Summary of Public Comments on the Substantial Amendment

Notice of the plan availability was made in the legal section of the Denver Post on and posted on the department's web-site, www.dola.state.co.us as of Friday, July 10. Plan is available for public review and comment July 10 through 20.